

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-06 SSO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 SS-15
SCA-01 /032 W

-----061801Z 052405 /53

O 061635Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4226

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:PINS, PINT, CASC (FRANK, ERIC)
LKDBJECT:W/W ERIC FRANK

REF: STATE 100871RPJ1. EMBASSY POLOFF SPOKE TO MRS FRANK ON MAY 5
ABOUT NATURE OF THREAT

AND HER PERCEPTION OF DANGER TO HER AND INFANT SON.
2. MRS. FRANK'S MOTHER, MARINA SOL, RECEIVED A HANDWRITTEN
NOTE LAST WEEK WITH A DEMAND FOR ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND COLONS
(40,000 DOLLARS)
AND THE THREAT THAT IF IT WAS NOT
PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS, THE QTE FPL WOULD TAKE
ACTION AGAINST TPR OR THE FAMILY UNQTE. MRS. FRANK
DID NOT HAVE THE ORIGINAL NOTE. HER MOTHER HAD TURNED IT OVER
TO THE NATIONALNYOLICE, WHICH IS IN THE PROCESS OF
INVESTIGATING THE MATTER. THE POLICE BELIEVES IT WILL TRAP
THE EXTORTIONIST.
3. THE FAMILY DOES NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THE NOTE IS FROM
THE TERRORIST FPL, BUT RATHER FROM CRIMINAL EXTORTIONISTS.
THE POLOFF AGREED WITH THIS CONCLUSION. THE FAMILY ALSO IS
CONVINCED THAT THE SOURCE OF THE THREAT IS SOMEONE
WHO KNOWS THE FAMILY, PERHAPS A DISGRUNTLED EX-EMPLOYEE.
THIS IS A COMMON OCCURRENCE HERE, ESPECIALLY AFTER ANY SPECT-
ACULAR KIDNAPPING QBCH AUQTHAT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER.
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THERE IS SELDOM ANY FOLL
OW-THROUGH ON THE PART OF THE
EXORTIONISTS, EXCEPT AN OCCASIONAL REPEAT DEMAND.
4. EVEN IF THE THREAT IN THIS CASE IS MORE SERIOUS THAN
IT SEEMS, THE TARGET IS MRS. SOL, NOT THE DAUGHTER OR AMCIT
CHILD WHOSE TEMPORARY PRESENCE IN THE COUNTRY IS PROBABLY
UNKNOWN TO ALL BUT A FEW CLOSE FRIENDS (SHE HAS BEEN HERE TWO

WEEKS). MRS. FRANK WAS NOT PARTICULARLY WORRIED ABOUT THE THREAT, BUT UNDERSTOOD THAT HER HUSBAND MIGHT BE, GIVEN PRESS STORIES ABOUT THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR.

5. MRS. FRANK EXPECTS HER HUSBAND TO JOIN HER NEXT TUESDAY. SHE EXPRESSED HER AND HER FAMILY'S GRATITUDE FOR THE VISIT, AND THE POLOFF'S CONCURRENCE WITH THE NATURE AND SERIOUSNESS OF THE THREAT.

6. COMMENT. THE EMBASSY'S BEST ASSESSMENT IS THAT NEITHER MRS. FRANK NOR HER SON ARE TARGETED FOR KIDNAPPING OR OTHER VIOLENT ACTS. THE THREAT IS MOST LIKELY THE WORK OF AN AMATEUR EXTORTIONIST WHO WOULD NOT LIKELY FOLLOW-THROUGH AND HARM THE FAMILY. THE FAMILY, ALTHOUGH CONCERNED, IS NOT WORRIED. IT HAS TAKEN WHAT PRECAUTIONS IT CAN, INCLUDING NOTIFYING THE POLICE. THE FAMILY DOES NOT DEEM THE SITUATION SUFFICIENTLY DANGEROUS TO MOVE ANYONE OUT OF THE HOUSE. THE EMBASSY AGREES. LOZANO

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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